The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Samuel Gompers said:

The trade unions are the organizations of the working class, for the working class, by the working class; grappling with economic and social problems as they arise, dealing with them in a practical manner to the end that a solution commensurate with the interests of all may be attained.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918. Entered as second-class matter September 26, 1933, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

WHOLE NO. 2058 — WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer* — VOL. 40, NO. 38

Green Urges 69th Convention Demand U.S. End Trade With Russia; Pledges Fight to Raise Wages; Sees Defeat of Taft-Hartleyites

AFL Council Sees New Epoch Starting

Houston, Tex.—The AFL Executive Council told the 69th AFL convention that its report included "many developments of fundamental significance indicating worldwide changes which inaugurate a new epoch in history.

The council said the year has been "one of unusual tensions" because of the communist menace from abroad, uncertainty and apprehension in our domestic economic and political life, and the Taft-Hartley law.

"Yet, in spite of these unfavorable facts, there has been wholesome progress in our trade union movement," the council said.

"During the past year, in celebrating the Samuel Gompers centenary, we reviewed the basic fundamentals on which our movement was founded and which have served as its guide for progress.

"We urge that this centennial year end in a rededication of all union members to the fundamental principles of the American Federation of Labor and a pledge by all trade unionists to use the power which organization gives them to promote greater freedom and opportunity for workers and all other citizens.

"The problems of the coming months will challenge our best thought and highest creative ability. We shall have to make sacrifices for principle, but this is the only way to prove that we are worthy of the freedom we enjoy.

"This freedom was earned for us by the sacrifices of others and it is our duty to hand it on unimpaired to future generations.

"We must fulfill this trust and make our own contribution to better living standards as measured by materials and in terms of a richer intellectual life and in terms of spiritual capacity and moral values."

Rise in Living Costs Checks '50 Advance in 'Real' Wages

REAL WAGE PER HOUR 1947 TO JUNE 1950

—From AFL Labor's Monthly Survey

Houston, Tex.—The rise in workers' living costs since April 1950 has checked a 20-month advance in "real" wages, which had amounted to 10 percent since July 1948.

The executive council told the 69th AFL convention that further price increases because of the Korean war will result in a further decline in workers' purchasing power. It said price controls of some sort are necessary.

"Price controls would automatically place a ceiling under which wages would be negotiated, and wages would be accommodated to this ceiling through the normal processes of collective bargaining," the council said. "This would make it possible to adjust inequities in wages and to increase wages proportionately with rising productivity."

It urged that voluntary measures, not rigid government regimentation, should be used to achieve the greatest efficiency and productive results if any controls over prices and wages are needed.

The council said that the nation's recovery from the 1949 recession to a new peacetime production record prior to the outbreak of Korean hostilities demonstrated the importance of workers' purchasing power to a full employment prosperity in the United States.

The increases in wages and salaries, many of them obtained by union action, amounted to $3.1 billion to consumer buying power.

"Increased wages and salary payments played an important part in creating the consuming buying power which lifted American industry out of the 1949 recession," the council said.

"During the recession, AFL unions negotiated large numbers of wage increases without raising prices. These increases added to workers incomes and helped to offset the losses in buying power due to layoffs. Also, our agreements prevented wage cutting.

"During the period from late 1948 to April 1950, when prices were either stable or declining, workers made their only significant postwar gains in living standards.

"While the general level of 'real' wages in factories had shown no increase whatever from August 1945 to July 1948, there was a 10 percent gain from July 1948 to April 1950. This is the average gain for all workers. Union members, of course, fared better."

The council said the outlook is for a continued high level of profits, with the improvement over 1949 affecting practically all branches of industry.

"With the rise in productivity and the high level of profits, it will unquestionably be possible for many firms to increase wages without raising prices," the council said.

Opening Speech Flays Misrepresentations by Communist Government; Calls for Defense Effort Support

Houston, Tex.—AFL President William Green called on the 69th AFL convention to demand a U. S. trade boycott of Soviet Russia to halt the communists' imperialistic war on free nations.

Opening the convention with a characteristically fighting speech, Mr. Green pledged:

1. A fight "with all the power that we possess to lift the wage level up so that it is established on a parity with prices before there is any freezing of wages."

2. Defeat of many of those congressmen who voted for the Taft-Hartley law. The 725 serious-minded delegates and hundreds more visitors thunderously approved Mr. Green's keynote report and promises, delivered in the gayly decorated auditorium.

The Korean war and threat of more aggression by the communist dictators in the Kremlin hung like a dark cloud over the meeting. But there was every indication that the convention was determined to deal forthrightly, with all steps to meet the world situation threatening peace and democracy, freedom and the welfare of American workers.

The delegates awaited a personal message from President Truman and speeches from members of his official family, including Vice President Alben W. Barkley, Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin, W. Averell Harriman, special assistant to the President, Federal Security Administrator Oscar R. Ewing, and others.

"I am sure you are all thinking about the tremendous war that is being carried on in Korea," Mr. Green said. "It is disturbing us very greatly because they are calling for our sons to go there and fight for the preservation of liberty, freedom and democracy. But there was a time because of the lying misrepresentations that have been made by the Communist government, in which they accuse America of being responsible for this terrible situation in Korea.

"I am not among many of the men who think that it was the Russian army, equipped and financed by Russia," he said. "At any rate it was the North Korean communists that crossed the line into South Korea seeking to wipe that country of its independence."

Mr. Green reviewed how Soviet Russia has blocked efforts to make peace treaties with Japan, Germany and Austria since the end of World War II, how Soviet Russia is attempting to extend communist control further into Asia, India and other countries.

He reminded the convention that years and months before Japan made war on America in 1941, the AFL conventions had demanded a U. S. boycott of Japanese goods and prohibition of the sale of war materials to Japan.

"This convention," Mr. Green said, "should call upon our government to stop buying anything from or selling anything to Russia, stop shipping goods to Russia from America because she will use them for the purpose of preparing for war."

Mr. Green said AFL officers responded promptly to the call of the government for support of the war and national defense effort.

"I am optimistic that the communists are going to be decisively defeated and free, law-loving nations are going to win another great victory," he said.

But, in the meantime, he said, the AFL would wage a militant fight against unjustified increases in the cost of living of American workers by profiteers seeking to take advantage of the Korean war.

"There is no justification for the mounting cost of food and those items that enter into the cost of living, such as have taken place since the middle of June," Mr. Green said. On the basis of these price rises, he predicted that men's suits will be up at least $5, shoes 10 percent, and work shirts $2 by next spring.

"There are some who are advocating the freezing of prices and wages," Mr. Green said. "We have protested against such action because that would mean freezing prices up high and wages down low.

"What we are determined to do is fight with all the power that we possess to lift the wage level up so that it is established on a parity with the prices before there is any freezing of wages."

Mr. Green reasserted the AFL's "firm and fixed determination to fight on until we bring about absolute and unequivocable repeal of the notorious Taft-Hartley law."

We have won very decisive elections in a number of states and it is my opinion that we are going to win some more even more decisively."

"We are going to beat many of those who refused to listen to us and who voted for the notorious Taft-Hartley law, and take the Taft-Hartley law off the books of the nation."

Mr. Green said the AFL won that fight once. He said the Democratic platform; and the Southern Democratic platform in 1948 pledged repeal of the law; Mr. Truman approved the platform; and the "Northern Democrats voted for that section as well as the liberal Democrats in the north."

He said the workers of the country responded by electing Mr. Truman and a Democratic Congress to repeal the Taft-Hartley law but the southern Dixiecrats teamed up with the Republicans to block repeal.

"Any Democrat," Mr. Green said, "who voted against his platform sacrificed his honor when he voted against repeal of the Taft-Hartley law."

He said AFL officials in some states are achieving miracles in getting workers registered for the November elections.

"If we get the votes in the industrial states we can get them in the solid bloc," he said.

In other highlights of his annual message, Mr. Green:

1. Praised enactment of the expanded social security law, which was fought by the American Federation of Labor.

2. Pledged continuing support to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the democratic world trade union movement.

3. Declared that the AFL will stand steadfast against the infiltration of communists in our beloved country.

The convention site and hotel were gayly decorated and a long list of social events arranged, including a trip to the San Jacinto battlefield and a rodeo.

AFL Council Urges Unions Banish Reds

Houston, Tex.—The AFL Executive Council recommended to the 69th AFL convention that each national and international union make sure of union security by excluding all communists.

The recommendation was one of a 5-part special proposal dealing with union and national security.

The council urged also that unions cooperate with appropriate authorities for national security and that unions cooperate with the AFL leadership to make industries in our military outposts, such as Panama, Puerto Rico, Alaska and Hawaii, secure from communist infiltration and control.

"Managements and workers within industries have grave responsibility for security in production of war materials and weapons," the council said. "Prevention of sabotage and spying to steal information useful to the Soviet agents pledged to make war on all western democracies is necessary to the security of our nation and our way of life.

"The Kremlin dictators through their agency, the World Federation of Trade Unions, and through communist agents within this country, have been taking steps to cripple movement of ammunition and supplies and have organized a campaign to this end."

The council called for an increasing program of vigilance against the communists.

SEND WOMAN

Houston, Tex.—Florence Hancock, chief woman officer of the Transport and General Workers Union, and Sir William Lawther, president National Union of Mineworkers, represented the British Trades Union Congress as fraternal delegates at the 69th AFL convention.

They came directly from the convention sessions of the BTUC at Brighton, England.

Union Label Trades Not Against Imports

Houston, Tex.—The Union Label Trades Department executive board told the department's 424 convention that its 57 affiliated unions "are not opposed to the importation of foreign made goods; they are opposed to such products being sold in the American market for less than the American cost."

"It is essential," the board said, "to establish import conditions so that our American workers can compete on an equal footing with workers of other nations and thus maintain American standards of wages, hours and conditions.

"That cannot be done if foreign manufacturers are able to undersell made-in-America goods by goods made under substandard conditions, such as low wages, long hours of work and other unfavorable conditions of employment.

The board said it intended "to smooth the way to mutual understanding among all AFL national and international unions in these and other national and international developments."

The board reported that more union label contracts are in effect now than ever before in AFL history. It said the purchase of union-made goods and services guarantees American high-wage standards.

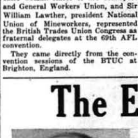
"American citizens today have purchasing power unequalled by any nation in world history," the board said. "Their purchases, ranging from a dime's worth to the price of a home are responsible for the stability and prosperity which we now enjoy.

"It is this purchasing power, over half of which is union-earned money, that makes the U. S. the greatest industrial nation on the face of the globe.

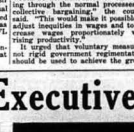
"By patronizing firms that display the union label, shop card and button, we likewise increase the demand for our services and for our products. By so doing we underwrite the wages and guarantee hours and working conditions of all American workers.

"In this way these official emblems of organized labor become the keys to our prosperity. All members of AFL unions as well as all American consumers are urged continually to buy only union label goods and to use only union services."

The Executive Council—Houston, 1950

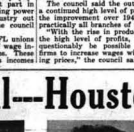


WILLIAM GREEN
President



GEORGE MEANY
Secretary-Treasurer

WILLIAM L. HUTCHESON
1st Vice President



MATTHEW WOLL
2d Vice President

JOSEPH N. WEBER
3d Vice President

GEORGE M. HARRISON
4th Vice President

DANIEL J. TOBIN
5th Vice President

HARRY C. BATES
6th Vice President

W. C. BIRTHRIGHT
7th Vice President

W. C. DOHERTY
8th Vice President

DAVID DUBINSKY
9th Vice President

CHARLES J. MacGOWAN
10th Vice President

HERMAN WINTER
11th Vice President

D. W. TRACY
12th Vice President

WILLIAM L. McFETRIDGE
13th Vice President

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor concerned in the broader trial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
SUPPLEMENT

WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Samuel Gompers said:
The organization of markets, food prices, pure food laws, municipal sanitation, building regulations, school laws, and an almost endless list, bring politics very close into the common life.

69th Convention Reelects Green, Meany and All Council Members; Adopts War and Defense Policies; Pushes Organic Labor Unity

Truman Calls AFL 'Right' On T-H Law

Houston, Tex.—President Truman told the 69th AFL convention that "your members are absolutely right" in working for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law. Following is the text of his message:

Dear Mr. Green:

Please extend my cordial greetings to the officers, delegates and members attending the 69th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor. While the international situation makes it impossible for me to accept your invitation to address the meeting, I wish you all a successful gathering in the interest of the wage earners affiliated with your organization and of the communities from coast to coast they serve so well.

The American Federation of Labor has a long history of service to wage earners and in enabling them to improve their working and living conditions in such a marked degree it has rendered a signal service to the nation as a whole. Organized labor's cooperation in efforts to enact a legislative program aimed at benefiting farmers, farmers, industry, investors and the public has helped to make us and to keep us the most prosperous and advanced nation in the history of the world.

Since your last convention the Social Security Act of 1935, an important section of our forward looking legislative program, has been improved by the 81st Congress by the doubling of insurance benefits and bringing 10,000,000 more persons under coverage—including those whose insurance rights were taken away by the 80th Congress. However, the Taft-Hartley Act, another job of the 80th Congress, is still on the statute books. Your members and other groups of workers are absolutely right in your opposition to its provisions unfair to labor. It should be repealed, as I have said repeatedly, in the interest of the working men and women who are continuing their efforts to that end.

Meanwhile, American workers will, I know, go all out in their efforts to expand their total production so that we can arm ourselves and help arm the free world. It is in this way that we will make the United States and the democratic nations powerful enough to meet the challenge of communist imperialism that today is a world menace.

Our workers will be joined by industry and farmers in a cooperative American effort to produce the goods our armed forces and the United Nations need in order to cope successfully with the world situation. The job will be even better done than it was in World War II when we broke all production records and in so doing helped to put down the threats to the freedom of liberty-loving people.

Now our capacity is greater, the danger is ever-threatening and our determination is as it always has been in our history, to preserve the American way of life for our children and our children's children. That we shall do by working together, sharing sacrifices willingly, in order to preserve the institutions of democracy to which we owe our happiness as a nation.

Very sincerely yours,
HARRY TRUMAN.

Employers Say 'No' To ILO Progress

Houston, Tex.—AFL International Representative George P. Delaney, U. S. workers' delegate to the International Labor Organization, charged that U. S. and other employers show a "negative attitude" in the annual ILO conference.

"Management has every right to oppose such proposals with which they do not agree," Mr. Delaney told the 69th AFL convention. "It pains me, however, to see American management falling for the sinister alarms sounded by employer representatives from European countries, especially from those countries where labor governments are in office."

Mr. Delaney specifically criticized the employers' opposition to an ILO program to prevent unemployment and world depression.

He said that on the question of resisting materials of Yenesuela delegates to the 1950 conference as being not representative of free trade unions "the best the employer representatives of the United States could do was to abstain" from voting.

The ILO, Mr. Delaney said, is making forward strides in the field of employment services, vocational training and migration.

"The fundamental principles on which the ILO is based is that 'poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity everywhere,'" he said. "Rising standards of living are the strongest defense against communist infiltration.

"The ILO is moving steadily ahead to the task of making available technical knowledge possessed by advanced countries to other countries whose underdeveloped conditions constitute not only a menace to themselves but also a danger to prosperity everywhere."

Jay C. Turner, AFL union member attached to the Washington office of ILO, brought to the convention formal greetings from ILO Director General David A. Morse.

Opens 69th Convention

Houston, Tex.—AFL President William Green accepts from Troy Slaughter (right), president Houston Trades and Labor Council, the gavel with which he convened and directed the 69th AFL convention.

Harriman Charges Taft's Positions Help Commies, and Urges His Defeat

Houston, Tex.—Sen. Robert A. Taft helps the communists.

W. Averell Harriman, special assistant to President Truman, told the 69th AFL convention that if Congress had adopted Taft's positions on the Marshall Plan and North Atlantic Treaty, "communist objectives would have been furthered."

"What is more, he has shown no understanding of the importance of organized labor in our affairs at home and in the world," Mr. Harriman said.

"Actions which further the designs of the Kremlin cannot be forgiven on the ground that they were taken unwittingly. The most charitable thing we can say about Taft is that he knows not what he does.

"We can no longer afford to leave in positions of high responsibility men who fail to recognize that American leadership is essential to the peace of the world."

Mr. Harriman urged all Americans to vote in the November elections and retire from public office men like Senator Taft.

"It is the responsibility of every American to vote," he said. He pointed out that only 371 percent of the country's eligible voters cast a ballot in 1946—"and you know what you got, the 80th Congress.

"These coming elections are of supreme importance—the critical moment," he said.

Mr. Harriman also took a swing at Sen. Joseph McCarthy, who repeated his irresponsible communist charges in a speech before the AFL at the meeting.

"He is on the wrong track," Mr. Harriman said, departing from his prepared speech. "He is playing right into the hands of the communists."

The former ambassador to Russia, chairman of the committee which worked out the Economic Cooperation Administration to handle the Marshall Plan, and one-time ambassador in Europe, said another world war can be prevented.

He charged that "a few men in the Kremlin have organized a world conspiracy for world domination."

"They use force to subjugate and enslave," he said. "These men of the Kremlin have developed the police state system far more effectively than has ever been achieved before to maintain control over vast numbers of unwilling and unhappy people."

He said that in Korea "communist imperialism has applied new technique of using a satellite to attack and attempt to conquer a free nation by force of arms."

Mr. Harriman believes that a world war can be prevented by arming western Europe, aiding Asiatic and Far Eastern nations militarily and economically, and strengthening the United States against aggression from without.

"In carrying America's message to the people of other lands," Mr. Harriman said, "there is nothing more effective than the direct message from the American workers to workers abroad. I have seen at first hand the value of the work that you are doing in the field and I earnestly hope that you will find it possible to expand these efforts."

Mr. Harriman praised Irving Brown, AFL representative in Europe; Jay Shields, AFL economist on leave with ECA in Paris; John Gross, former Colorado AFL leader now ECA ambassador to Norway, and Joseph Keenan, director of Labor's League for Political Education.

Array of Speakers From Foreign Countries and AFL Representatives Abroad Attack Communist Dictators' Aggression

Houston, Tex.—The 69th AFL convention reelected President William Green, Secretary-Treasurer George Meany and all 13 vice presidents to carry out the broad economic, legislative and international programs adopted by the historic meeting.

The vice presidents in order are William L. Hutcheson, president Brotherhood of Carpenters; Matthew Woll, vice president Photo-Engravers; Joseph D. Keenan, Musicians; George M. Harrison, president Brotherhood of Railway Clerks; Daniel J. Tobin, president Teamsters; Harry C. Bates, president Bricklayers; W. C. Birthright, president Barbers; W. C. Doherty, president National Association of Letter Carriers.

David Dubinsky, president International Ladies Garment Workers; Charles J. MacGowan, president Brotherhood of Boilermakers; Herman Winter, president emeritus Bakery Workers; D. W. Tracy, president Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; William L. McFetridge, president Building Service Employes.

Mr. Green, who was first elected in 1924 to succeed the late Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the AFL, was nominated by Phil Hannah, secretary-treasurer of the Ohio State Federation of Labor. Mr. Green's home state federation, for this 26th full term.

Mr. Meany was nominated by Martin P. Durkin, president of the United Association of Plumbers, his home international union; by Thomas F. Murray, of the New York State Federation, which Mr. Meany once headed, and by AFL Vice President Woll.

Mr. McFetridge, who was elected by the executive council last January to succeed the late W. D. Mahon, was chosen for his first full term.

In accepting what he termed "the greatest office in organized labor in America," Mr. Green pledged his wholehearted efforts to the service of the American Federation of Labor.

He promised to work for organic labor unity, repeal of the Taft-Hartley law, liberal welfare legislation, and to cooperate with the United States government and free trade unions throughout the world against communist infiltration and aggression.

His acceptance speech was one of the highlights of a fast-moving convention in which:

1. Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin declared that "when Congress passed the defense production act it did not intend to sanction a wage freeze."

2. Delegates rejected resolutions to make affiliation of local unions to AFL labor unions and state federations compulsory.

3. Delegates adopted resolutions and recommendations calling for increased federal housing programs for middle income groups and urging local unions to request local governments to extend rent controls beyond Dec. 31, 1950.

4. A resolution was adopted calling for amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Act reducing the hours of work to less than 8-hour day and 40 hours a week as soon as the war emergency permits.

5. Spokesmen for free trade unions in Great Britain, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Italy, Latin America, and spokesmen in exile from countries behind the iron curtain condemned the aggression of communist imperialist dictators abroad and the enslavement of peoples within the dictator-controlled countries.

6. AFL representatives in the International Labor Organization, Germany, Europe, India and Latin America reported progress being made by free trade unions in rolling back communist and fascist infiltration and attack.

7. President Green and presidents of international and affiliated state bodies were directed to wire their senators urging support of S. 3295 authorizing railroad unions to negotiate for a union shop on the railroads.

8. Delegates applauded General Counsel J. Albert Woll for outstanding service. President Truman's removal of Robert N. Denham as general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board.

President Green and Vice President MacGowan told the convention that the AFL executive council is hopeful that organic unity may be effected between the AFL and Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Reviewing what he called the "unfavorable situation" with regard to raiding, Mr. Green said:

"I am hopeful that the division is about over, that good judgment and common sense will prevail and that we will reestablish in the United States a labor movement made up of all eligible for affiliation.

"We will try to find a basis to compose our differences and establish unity. If there is any sacrifice that I may be called upon to make I'll make the sacrifice."

Mr. MacGowan said that "the executive council is sincerely and genuinely working to bring about organic unity in the American labor movement. We have high hopes and we will work diligently to bring about the condition that the rank and file of organized labor wants, and that is organic unity."

Metal Trades Asks AFL Aid to Halt Military Poaching on Civil Duties

Houston, Tex. — The AFL Metal Trades Department's annual convention directed President James Brownlow to enlist support of the 69th AFL convention to halt "the serious encroachment upon the rights of civilians" by the military branch of the government.

The action was taken upon Mr. Brownlow's report as department president. He said:

"The gradual usurping by the military of functions which are essentially civilian does not augur well for the future of our nation."

The Metal Trades adopted resolutions calling for the development of a shipbuilding program and merchant marine that would restore the United States to the position it warrants in the commerce of the world.

Charles J. MacGowan, president of the Boiler Makers and the department's first vice president, referred to John P. Frey, president emeritus of the metal trades, as "the greatest moral crusader of our time."

In a message to the 39th convention of the International Labor Press of America, Mr. Truman said:

"The labor press can keep American workers aware of their responsibilities as citizens. It has been maturing rapidly into a most effective instrument of communication and I hope the top echelons of the AFL, international unions, state federations of labor, central labor unions and the rank and file," they said.

Harry O'Reilly, director of organizing for the AFL, told the editors that the performance of the press has gone hand in hand with organizing and collective bargaining. Commendation for the support received in organizing campaigns from labor newspapers.

Asks More Support For Marshall Plan

Houston, Tex.—Economic Cooperation Administrator Paul G. Hoffman has appealed to the 69th AFL convention urging increased support for Marshall Plan aid for Europe.

"The communists are making new and greater efforts toward their aim to control the world," Mr. Hoffman said. "We must be equally energetic in buying freedom for that price.

"For this reason, I must now ask that the membership of the American Federation of Labor not only continue, but increase its support of the Marshall Plan. Only through its success can we be assured that the labor movements of western Europe—indeed, of the world—will have freedom."

Truman Asks Press Keep Workers Alert

Houston, Tex.—President Truman praised the labor press for "many useful contributions" to the cause of American wage earners and as "a valiant champion" of workers' rights.

Officers reported that the American labor press in the past year gave further evidence of its sense of responsibility to the labor movement.

"The labor press has been maturing rapidly into a most effective instrument of communication and I hope the top echelons of the AFL, international unions, state federations of labor, central labor unions and the rank and file," they said.

"This calls for production at full speed with without sacrificing any of the protection of our free institutions and those of liberty loving peoples the world over."

HONOR CUTHBERT

Houston, Tex.—The 39th convention of the International Labor Press of America adopted a resolution mourning the death of the late T. E. Cuthbert, editor of the Chattanooga, Tenn., "Labor World," as a loss to the labor movement of his community and the state of Tennessee.

Editors Pledge Help to Get Vote To Polls in Crucial November Poll

Houston, Tex.—Members of the International Labor Press of America pledged at their 39th annual convention all of their efforts to help get every worker to the polls in the crucial Nov. 7 elections.

"Our objective in the ILPA as an American Federation of Labor is being carried out to the fullest extent," ILPA officers reported. "Plans for a concerted drive for registration of every worker and his family, and for bringing out the votes in November, are in full swing.

"We urge all our editors at this convention to further intensify their efforts of arousing the AFL membership to intelligent political action between now and Nov. 7."

Public Relations Urged For Locals

Houston, Tex.—The 39th convention of the International Labor Press of America urged the setting up of local union public relations programs.

It proposed a contest for the four best public relations program by an AFL publication.

Organized labor, the convention said, can only clear up public misunderstanding of the aims, policies and practices of organized labor and combat anti-labor propaganda by a positive program of public relations, not only on the national level, but in each community of the nation.

In other resolutions, the convention pledged support of labor newspapers for the AFL Free Trade Union Committee, the National Conference of

WAGES HIKED

San Francisco.—Collective bargaining sessions on behalf of some 67,000 AFL and allied trade unionists in California brought wage gains averaging 15 cents an hour since July.

Plumbers in 46 northern California counties gained 12½ cents. Safeway retail clerks got a $2 per week boost in the Bay area while Los Angeles and San Diego bakers gained 5 cents and a 5-day, 40-hour week.

Union Labor Veterans and organic unity of the AFL and CIO.

The ILPA reaffirmed its determination "to continue and intensify its campaign to protect the good names of organized labor by using every available means to expose the operations of all unethical individuals and organizations who use 'yearbooks' in improper practices in their solicitation of advertising."

STRESSES SAFETY

Houston, Tex.—U. S. Navy yards and factories are getting to be safer places to work.

Rear Admiral W. McL. Hague told the AFL Metal Trades Department convention that the accident frequency rate was reduced from 11.18 in 1946 to 5.35 in 1949. (Frequency rate is the number of lost-time accidents per million man hours worked.)

"Our progress has been due to a safety-minded industry—progress that is being pushed unremittingly throughout the naval establishment," he said. "It has not been achieved by luck. There is no luck in safety."

The Admiral's remarks was read by Capt. Philip Wakeman.

MEETING SET JAN. 8

Washington.—The regional conference of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions for this hemisphere will be held Jan. 8 at Mexico City.

Favor UN University

Detroit.—Officials and guests of AFL American Federation of Teachers look over union's program for a United Nations university and a fund to provide functional literacy wherever it is needed in free world. The program was approved by union's convention.

IT'S A PLEASURE

Houston, Tex. — AFL President William Green was pleased to hear that General Counsel Robert N. Denham of the National Labor Relations Board had resigned at the request of President Truman.

"His resignation will be accepted by labor throughout the country with a feeling of relief and satisfaction," Mr. Green said. "Mr. Denham's decisions on the Taft-Hartley Act labor's objections to the Taft-Hartley Act were responsible for disasters everywhere.

"It is our fixed and irrevocable policy to bring about repeal of the Taft-Hartley law. We shall continue our efforts until we reach our objective."

WIN PAY HIKE

Elizabethton, Tenn. — The AFL United Textile Workers won wage increases totaling more than $1,000,000 a year for 5,500 employes of the Bemberg Corp. rayon plants.

The pay hike provided 9 cents an hour general wage increase and 2 cents an hour in improved insurance, holiday and vacation benefits.

T-H WON'T WORK

Houston, Tex.—The executive council told the 69th AFL convention:

"We grow increasingly restive under the Taft-Hartley Act and of the continued failure of Congress to give us relief from provisions of a law which prevents unions from performing normal and necessary functions and imposes provisions which the administrators cannot apply.

"The Taft-Hartley law is repressive, not constructive and energizing."

Union Label Trades Indiana AFL Told Welcomes Leheney Some Controls Due

Houston, Tex.—The 424 convention of the AFL Union Label Trades Department welcomed Raymond F. Leheney of Los Angeles who formally assumed the duties of secretary-treasurer.

Mr. Leheney was elected at the August executive board meeting to succeed the late I. M. Ornburn.

The convention approved the report and recommendations of department officers.

Detailed reports were made on the success of the 1950 Union Industries Show and celebration of Union Label Week.

Plans were begun for the 6th AFL Union Industries Show to be held in 1951 in St. Louis.

The convention reelected AFL Vice President Matthew Woll as president and all three vice presidents:

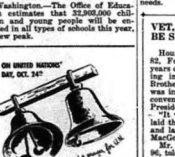
John J. Mara, Pamphlet Binders; Joseph A. Duffy, Herman Winter, Richard F. Walsh.

200 VISITORS

Houston, Tex.—The 69th AFL convention was advised that approximately 200 trade unionists from Germany, Austria, Italy, Latin America and western Europe visited the U. S. in the past year.

22 MILLION IN SCHOOL

Washington.—The Office of Education estimates that 32,902,000 children and young people will be enrolled in all types of schools this year, a new peak.



Indianapolis, Ind.—Some indirect manpower controls may be needed to win the Korean war, the Indiana State Federation of Labor was told here.

John Fanning, representing Secretary of Army Frank Pace, told the Indiana AFL convention that the manpower problem created by the war and the national defense build-up "can be met only through emergency controls and recommendations of departments utilization of the labor force in both military and civilian fields."

"The National Security Resources Board by law is responsible for planning the mobilization of manpower," Mr. Fanning said. "Several types of manpower controls have been and are being considered by the planners.

"There should be no surprise if the planners may be considering giving a manpower ceiling program a statutory basis with penalties for failure to comply."

Mr. Fanning said all indirect manpower controls, such as limiting supplies of materials, are essential to industries and selective service, are being used.

"Every victory on the battlefront begins with the men and women on the working front," he said.

The AFL favors full use of voluntary methods to supply manpower needs.

VET, 82, URGES BE SURE TO VOTE

Houston, Tex.—Rosa Parmley, 82, "the oldest oath, Texas, or 62 years continuously in good standing in the AFL Typographical Brotherhood of Boilermakers, was introduced to the 69th AFL convention by Boilermakers' President Charles J. MacGowan.

"It was men of this type who laid the foundations of the AFL and laid it deep and wide," Mr. MacGowan told delegates.

Mrs. Parmley, member of Local 96, told reporters he had 2 rules for union members: 1. Pay your dues. 2. Qualify to vote. 2. Vote.